

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5482

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S E C R E T TEHRAN 1267

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO, IR

SUBJ: WEAPONS FOR MOROCCO

1. FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY SUMMONED ME MORNING FEBRUARY 8 TO PRESENT SHOPPING LIST OF ARMS WHICH MOULAYE HAFIZ, MOROCCAN MINISTER OF COURT, PRESENTED TO SHAH ON FEBRUARY 7. IN VIEW OF THE US BAN ON PASSAGE OF WEAPONS TO THIRD COUNTRIES, FOREIGN MINISTER WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER OR NOT USG WOULD APPROVE PASSING ARMS LISTED BELOW TO THE MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT. IRAN DOES NOT WANT TO DO THIS DIRECTLY. IT WANTS TO HAVE JORDAN, ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY, PASS THE WEAPONS TO MOROCCO EVEN THOUGH THEY WILL BE PROVIDED BY IRAN. ALSO THE GOI WANTS TO KNOW IF THE USG CAN REPLACE THESE WEAPONS QUICKLY IN THE IRANIAN MILITARY INVENTORY. THE GOI OBVIOUSLY WOULD LIKE TO HELP MOROCCO AND BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL CONSIDERING THE HEAVY SUPPLY OF SOVIET WEAPONS IN ALGERIA PLUS THE LIBYAN INVENTORY OF ARMS RECENTLY PROVIDED BY THE SOVIET UNION. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY REPLY TO THIS IRANIAN INQUIRY.

2. SHOPPING LIST SUBMITTED BY THE MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT READS AS FOLLOWS:

- A. TOW -- 24 LAUNCHERS AND 480 MISSILES.
- B. 200 REDEYE HAND-HELD ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES.
- C. SIXTEEN 109A2 HOWITZERS.
- D. THIRTY-SIX 106 MM GUNS.
- E. FOUR MILLION 7.62 NATO ROUNDS.

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- F. 12,800 SHELLS FOR 155 MM GUNS. (10 PERCENT SMOKE OR PHOS-

PHORUS, 10 PERCENT ILLUMINATING, 70 PERCENT EXPLOSIVES, AND
AND 10 PERCENT TRAINING).

G. ONE SQUADRON OF F-5 AIRCRAFT: 25 PLANES PLUS MUNITIONS
AND TWO TACANS.

3. WHILE SEVERAL ITEMS ON THIS LIST, PARTICULARLY REDEYE,
ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN IRANIAN ARMED FORCES, WE PRESUME THAT
IF USG APPROVAL WERE GRANTED, EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO FIND
SUBSTITUTIONS.

HELMS

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